10.S
1974
L7

ARMED FORCES MEDICAL LIBRARY

VOL. X, No.11 NEWS NOVEMBER 1955

ISSUED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING FRIENDS OF THE ARMED FORCES MEDICAL LIBRARY

The fourth annual dinner meeting of the Friends of the Armed Forces Medical Library was held at the Officers' Club of the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland, on Friday evening, 28 October 1955. There were 50 persons in attendance; distinguished guests included Major General Silas B. Hays, Surgeon General of the Army, and Mrs. Hays; Rear Admiral H. Lamont Pugh, Commanding Officer of the National Naval Medical Center, and Mrs. Pugh; Mr. L. Quincy Mumford, Librarian of Congress, and Mrs. Mumford; Mr. Foster E. Mohrhardt, Librarian of the Department of Agriculture, and Mrs. Mohrhardt; Mr. Verner W. Clapp, Chief Assistant Librarian of Congress, and Mrs. Clapp. The meeting had a wide geographic representation; members were present from Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago, and New Orleans; Dr. Paul G. Roofe, Professor of Anatomy at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, had traveled the greatest distance to attend this meeting.

Dr. Benjamin Spector, Professor of Anatomy at Tufts University School of Medicine and Chairman of the FRIENDS, was the presiding officer for the meeting. Mrs. Breed Robinson, Librarian of the University of Maryland Medical, Dental, and Pharmacy Libraries, presented the Treasurer's report. The balance on hand in June 1954 had been $987.40; receipts since that time to 30 September 1955 were $1,900; expenses for the same period totaled $1,368.11, leaving a balance on hand as of 30 September of $1,519.29. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed (AFML NEWS, July 1954).

In presenting the report of the Director, Lt. Colonel Rogers covered three aspects of the Library's work: the situation as regards construction of a new building; events at the Library during the past year; a forecast of the Library's program during the next year. He reported that the Library is halfway toward its goal of getting the first half of the construction job done (architect's plans); funds have been appropriated, but the Navy has not yet asked the Bureau of the Budget for apportionment of the funds which the Congress voted. Preliminary hearings on construction funds, to be included in the FY 1957 budget, have already been held with representatives of the Department of Defense and the Bureau of the Budget. Meanwhile, several bills in Congress propose

Printing cost borne by the FRIENDS of the Armed Forces Medical Library.

the transfer of the Library outside the Department of Defense to the jurisdiction of the Smithsonian Institution in accordance with recommendations of the Hoover Commission. The Director also reported on the many difficulties that had arisen incident to the shifting of the collections during the past year, with particular reference to the problem involved in shoring up the sagging main stack structure of the Library, just now finally completed.

Dr. Spector then introduced the principal speaker of the evening, Mr. Keyes D. Metcalf, Librarian emeritus of Harvard University, whose subject was "Research Libraries in 1955." Mr. Metcalf outlined ten fundamental problems: growth, acquisition and discarding, cataloging, care of the collections, service, relationships with other libraries, administrative organization, personnel, finances, and use of buildings and space. He explained the elements of each of these problems, and related them to the particular situation of the Armed Forces Medical Library. Mr. Metcalf's talk was very well received.

The meeting was adjourned with the prospect of holding the next meeting in Washington in October 1956.

FIRST MEETING, FY 1956, AFML ADVISORY GROUP

The Armed Forces Medical Library Advisory Group met at the Library on 28 October 1955. New members present at this meeting were Miss Mary Louise Marshall, Dr. Worth B. Daniels, and Colonel Russell S. Leone, USAF (MC). Other members present were Dr. Austin Smith, Dr. Robert M. Stephan, and Captain William L. Engelman, MC, USN. Dr. Saul Jarcho and Colonel Joseph H. McNinch, MC, USA, were absent. Mr. Keyes D. Metcalf, the Library's building consultant, was the guest of the Advisory Group.

The status of planning for the new building was considered by the Group, which noted with considerable regret that funds appropriated for the purpose have not yet been apportioned. The prospect of construction funds in the FY 1957 budget was reviewed. The Group also discussed the implication of bills pending in Congress which would implement the recommendations of the Hoover Commission. The Group carefully reviewed a summary statement of activities during FY 1955 which had been prepared by the Director, and considered various elements of the Library's program for FY 1956.

EXHIBIT

"Problems of Space Medicine" is the topic of the exhibit of the Armed Forces Medical Library for the month of November. Photographs obtained from the U. S. Air Force and the National Geographic Society present the problems of radiation, oxygen supply, cabin environment, acceleration and deceleration, zero gravity, and extreme temperatures. A jet helmet and oxygen mask are included in the exhibit through the courtesy of the U. S. Air Force.

FORECAST FOR FY 1956

During the months ahead some important aspects of the Library's program will be very much in evidence:

(1) Before the end of 1955 the first quinquennial cumulation of the Armed Forces Medical Library Catalog, covering the years 1950-1954, will be published. The set will appear in six volumes, and will contain approximately 110,000 author entries and 80,000 subject entries. It may be obtained direct from the publisher, J.W. Edwards, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan, at $64 the set.

(2) In January 1956 the last volume of the Index-Catalogue (Series 4, Volume XI) will be published, covering the segment MI-MN. This volume will be larger than any of the 57 volumes already published; it will be available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, at a tentative price of $9.

(3) In the early spring the Library will bring out the latest addition to its series of long bibliographies. The subject of this bibliography is the chemotherapy of cancer, comprising approximately 6,000 references. Work on this project has been in progress since the late fall of 1954.

(4) In the late spring another long bibliography will appear, tentatively titled Bibliography of Medical Reviews. This will be a listing by subject of approximately 2,000 review articles which have appeared in the world medical literature during 1955. Research people have frequently spoken of the importance of the review article in literature surveys undertaken before or during the course of research projects; the Library will offer this bibliography in an attempt to test the theory.

(5) On 5 April 1956 (tentative date) the Library will sponsor a one-day symposium on Acquisitions Policy. Six men distinguished in their respective fields of effort have been invited to participate. Details of the program for this symposium will be offered at a later date.

These forthcoming events should provide indications of the vitality of the Library and of its usefulness to society.

GROWTH OF COLLECTIONS

	CURRENT YEAR			COLLECTION TOTALS	
	Added	With-drawn	Net Gain	30 June 1954	30 June 1955
BOOK MATERIAL					
1. Bound Monographs					
a. HMD	367	37	330	31,069	31,399
b. 1801-1913	0	1,489	0	104,576	103,087
c. 1914-	7,255	879	6,376	104,576	110,952
Subtotal	7,622	2,405	5,217	240,221	245,438
2. Bound Serials	5,858	0	5,858	211,178	217,036
Total of Bound vols.	13,480	2,405	11,075	451,399	462,474
3. Theses	2,040	0	2,040	270,436	272,526
4. Pamphlets	1,320	0	1,320	152,198	153,518
Subtotal	3,360	0	3,360	422,634	426,044
TOTAL BOOK MATERIAL	16,840	2,405	14,435	874,083	888,518
NON-BOOK MATERIAL					
1. Microfilms	63	0	63	1,881	1,944
2. Portraits and Pictures	928	18	910	55,001	55,911
TOTAL NON-BOOK MATERIAL	991	18	973	56,882	57,855
BOUND VOLUME EQUIVALENTS	0	0	0	15,258	15,258
GRAND TOTAL	17,831	2,423	15,408	946,223	961,631

955

TALS

June
955

1,399

3,087

0,952

5,438

7,036

2,474

2,526

3,518

6,044

3,518

1,944

55,911

57,855

15,258

61,631